

A
D E S C R I P T I O N
— O F A —
S E T of P R I N T S
O F
Ancient History;

CONTAINED IN
A S E T of E A S Y L E S S O N S.

By Mrs. TRIMMER.

IN TWO PARTS. — PART II.

London.

Printed and Sold by JOHN MARSHALL, at No. 4, ALDERMAY
CHURCH-YARD, in BOW-LANE, and No. 17, QUEEN-
STREET, CHEAPSIDE.

1795.



INTRODUCTION.

MONARCHIES, as has been already observed, consist of a number of kingdoms or nations, whose kings or governors are subjected to one sovereign. The prints we are going to describe, are designed chiefly to fix in the memory, the origin and subjection of the nations that are mentioned in Scripture; of the principal kingdoms and states that were successively annexed to the Roman Monarchy, or which subsisted during its continuance. It is hoped, that young readers will pay particular attention to the accounts

they will hear read of those nations mentioned in the Bible ; viz. the Moabites, &c. as a previous knowledge of these circumstances will render their subsequent study of the Scriptures more easy and pleasant to them.

As the arrangement of the different series of prints is not altogether so regular as the author could have wished, from the difficulties that occurred, the teacher is requested to produce the prints in the former sets, whenever the marginal notes refer to them.

A DESCRIPTION, &c.

Number I.

THE MOABITES.

BALAAM and BALAK on MOUNT PEOR.

AFTER the destruction of Sodom, Lot had two sons, one of whom was named Moab, the other Ammon. The people who descended from Moab were called Moabites. They drove out a

A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
nation called the Enims, though they
were of gigantic stature, and settled
themselves in their country, which was
afterwards called the Land of Mcab.

At first the Moabites worshipped
God, but in process of time they be-
came idolators; yet the Israelites were
not permitted to cut them off, out of
regard to Lot, who had, as long as he
lived, worshipped and obeyed the LORD.

One of the kings of Moab was named
Balak. This prince offered great gifts
to Balaam, who was a prophet among
the Israelites, on condition that he
would, in the name of God, pronounce

curfes on Ifrael. Balaam, who was a very covetous man, was tempted by thefe gifts, and wifhed to obtain them; which made God very angry with him, and he forbade him to go to *curfe Ifrael*; but afterwards fent him *to fpeak the words that he fhould put in his mouth*. Balaam well knew that thefe would be very different from what Balak required, yet refolved to gain the gifts if he poffibly could; which greatly offend-
ed God, who refolved to fhew forth his power in him. When Balaam arrived at Moab, he advifed Balak to offer a great many facrifices, firft in one place,

4 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
and then in another, in hopes of pre-
vailing on God to permit him to curse
some part of Israel ; but he was com-
pelled to pronounce blessings on them,
and to foretel, that they would become a
very great people, and that the Saviour
of the world should be born among
them ; which at last so enraged Balak
that he drove him away from the king-
dom. Many years afterwards the Mo-
abites were among the oppressors of the
Israelites ; and Eglon their king was
slain by Ehud, one of the judges of
Israel.

When king David came to the throne the Moabites, joined with other idolatrous nations in a confederacy against him, and he gained a great victory over them, from which time they continued for a number of years subject to the kings of Israel; but at length revolted, and were very troublesome enemies to both Israel and Judah, as you will read in the Bible. They at last lost their ancient name of Moabites, and were mixed among the Arabian nations.

among bad people

Number II.

THE AMMONITES.

A SACRIFICE to MOLOCH.

THE Ammonites were a people who descended from Ammon, the other son of Lot. They drove out a people called the Zammumims, a race of giants, and settled themselves in their country. Neither the Ammonites nor the Moabites were allowed to marry among the Israelites ; because they would not come out to help them in the wilderness, and

because their kings joined together to hire Balaam to curse that people.

Though Lot certainly taught his son Ammon as well as Moab, to worship God, the Ammonites grew at last to be wicked idolators, and among other things that they worshipped was an idol called *Moloch*, to which they were so cruel as to sacrifice children. It had the head of an Ox, and arms like a man; and the poor little creatures were burnt alive; because the Ammonites fancied that *Moloch* would be pleased at their doing so. What a sad thing it was for children to belong to a country where the people

2 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
were so foolish and wicked ! and how
thankful ought those to be, who are
received into the favour of the *living*
God, as soon as they are born, who
blesses them from day to day, if they
continue to be good, and will regard
them as his own children as long as
they live, and as such, give them an in-
heritance in the kingdom of heaven after
death !

The Ammonites, as the Bible informs
us, had many wars with the Israelites ;
but their nation no longer continues ; for
they were long ago mixed with the
Arabians.

Number III.

MIDIANITES.

GIDEON attacking the CAMP of the
MIDIANITES.

THE Midianites are supposed to have been descended from Midian, one of Abraham's sons, whom he had after the death of Sarah, when he was married to another wife, named Keturah. They became in time a very numerous people, and were chiefly either shepherds or

10 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
merchants, and were very rich in cattle,
gold and jewels.

At first they worshipped God, but in
time they turned idolators, like the Mo-
abites and Ammonites.

The Midianites were some of the
people who purchased Joseph from his
brethren.

In the days of Moses they took great
pains to draw the Israelites from the
worship of God; for which they were
punished with a very great slaughter, and
the wicked prophet Balaam was slain
among them.

A great many years after, the Midia-

nites, under two kings, named Zebah and Zalmunna, cruelly oppressed the Israelites, by destroying the fruits of the earth, and stealing away their cattle ; but at length God took compassion on the Israelites, and commanded Gideon to go and fight against those two wicked kings ; but desired him to take with him only three hundred men, unarmed, each having a ram's horn in one hand, and a light concealed in a pitcher in the other. This little troop arrived at the camp of the Midianites about midnight, and all at once blew their ram's horn trumpets. The Midianites

started at this sound, and seeing a great many lights, supposed there was a vast army coming against them, and began running about in great confusion in the dark, for the lamps were not near enough to give them light, so they took friends for foes, and put one another to death; and soon after Zebah and Zalmunna were taken prisoners and killed. By these victories the Israelites were delivered from their fears, and gained immense riches, to make them amends for their former losses.

The Midianites were a famous nation again, many years afterwards; but a long

time ago. they became mixed with the
Arabians.

Number IV.

EDOMITES.

ESAU meeting his Brother JACOB.

ESAU, one of the sons of Isaac and Rebekah, was also called Edom; and the Edomites were a nation that descended from him. It has already been related in what manner Esau gave up his birth-right.*

* See Scripture History N^o. IX.

14 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
and forfeited the land of Canaan ; and
that his father foretold that God would
do great things for him ; and so it proved ;
for while Jacob was suffering many
hardships, as a punishment for the sly
trick he had been guilty of in deceiving
his father, Esau became very rich and
powerful ; and when Jacob was return-
ing back to his native country, he was
very much afraid that his brother Esau
would come with an army, and destroy
him and his family. He, therefore, sent
some of his servants on before, with
presents to appease him. At length
Esau met Jacob, and brought four hun-

dred men with him, in order to honour and assist his brother; when Jacob beheld this great company he was very much alarmed; but, to his great surprise and joy, Esau fell upon his neck and wept over him with tenderness, and a perfect reconciliation took place; after which, the two brothers lived in peace and harmony together, but in different countries; Esau in Mount Seir, and Jacob at Mamre.

The land of Edom was afterwards divided among twelve dukes, who were the children and grandchildren of Esau.

In the days of David the Edomites

were conquered, and brought into subjection to the Israelites, and continued to be so for many years ; but a long while afterwards they recovered their freedom, and again became a great nation ; but at last they quarrelled among themselves, and some of them left Edom and settled in Judea, after the Jews were carried captives into Babylon, and the others joined with the children of Nebaioth, and were from that time called Nabateans.

Those who settled in Judea were continually engaged in wars ; and when the Jews were restored to their own land, the

Edomites were under the necessity of turning Jews or quitting the country. Thus did God bring the Edomites to destruction, and root out their name; because they practised idolatry, and fought against those who descended from Jacob, as well as themselves.

No good ever comes of quarrels among relations; brothers and sisters should on all occasions unite together, and consult each others interest as well as their own.

Number V.

AMALEKITES.

The AMALEKITES fighting with the ISRAELITES in their PASSAGE from the RED SEA.

ESAU had a grandson named Amalek, who was one of the dukes of Edom; and the Amalekites, are by some supposed to have been descended from him. They were a very haughty insolent people, and seem to have exalted themselves against God; for though

they must have heard of the Egyptians being drowned in the Red Sea, and of the miracles that were wrought in the land of Egypt, they came out to fight against the very people whom God protected, and attacked them in a very cruel manner ; but the Israelites overcame them, under the guidance of Joshua, who was commanded to write in a book that their names should be put out from under heaven ; for God knew that they would always be a wicked presumptuous people ; and so they proved. In the days of Saul the greatest part of the nation was, by the command of God, cut

off by the Israelites for their wickedness. David also obtained a great victory over them; and in the reign of Hezekiah, king of Judah, the Amalekites were all destroyed or dispersed by the Simeonites, who possessed themselves of their country.

Number VI.

CANAANITES.

The ISRAELITES passing the RIVER JORDAN.

CANAAN, the son of Ham, the son of Noah, had eleven sons, Sidon, Heth,

Jubusi, Amori, Gergashi, Hivi, Ark, Sini, Arvadi, Zemari, and Hamathi. These were the heads of the following tribes or nations, the Sidonians, the Hittites, the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Gergashites, the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Five of these are known to have dwelt in the land of Canaan, *viz.* the Hittites, the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Gergashites, and the Hivites; to these were added the Perizzites and Canaanites, and these make up the seven nations of the Canaanites.

All the Canaanitish nations became in

22 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
time wicked idolators, on which account
they were doomed by GOD to destruction,
and their land was given to Abraham,
Isaac, and Jacob, as an inheritance to be
possessed by their descendants when GOD
should send them to cut the idolators off.
In the Bible there is a full account of
the transactions which Abraham and
Jacob had with the Canaanites, and the
battles which the Israelites fought with
them at different times. The first coun-
tries the Israelites took possession of were
those of Og, king of Basan, and Sihon,
king of the Amorites. Jericho was the
next place they were to attack, which

was a strong city with high walls all round it; and there was the river Jordan to pass in order to get to it. However, it pleased God to cause the waters to divide, as the Red Sea had before done, while the Israelites passed over; and shortly after, he also caused the walls to fall down at the sound of the rams horns, which the priests were commanded to blow; and the Israelites, according to divine command, entered the city, and put all the people to death, excepting one woman, named Rahab and her family, as you will read in the Bible. After this the Israelites, by degrees, conquered all

24 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
the Canaanites, who were most of them
destroyed, and the rest, in the reign of
Solomon, were reduced to a state of
slavery.

Number VII.

PHILISTINES.

DAGON fallen before the ARK of God.

THE Philistines originally descended
from Minaim the son of Ham, the son
of Noah. They were a very warlike
people, and in the days of Abraham and

Haac, seem to have been a righteous and hospitable nation, but at length they became idolators, and great enemies to the Israelites ; and there were many wars between them.

A little before the birth of Samson they greatly oppressed the Israelites, and God gave to him uncommon strength, on purpose that he might punish them ; which he did several times as has been already related.*

After the death of Samson, the Israelites took courage to fight against the

* See Scripture History, Number XVI.
PART II, B

Philistines ; and thinking to make their victory sure by that means, brought the Ark of God, in which the Tables of the Law, or the Commandments were kept, into the camp ; this they should not have done, and therefore God permitted the Philistines to kill a great many of the Israelites, as well as Hophni and Phineas, the two priests who carried it, and to take the Ark away with them. The Israelites were in great consternation at this misfortune, and the Philistines exulted, as if they had taken God prisoner ; and they carried the Ark and set it in

triumph before their idol Dagon ;* but what was their surprise, when they entered his temple in the morning, and saw the image Dagon fallen on its face before the *Ark of the LORD* ! They set it up again, but the next day it was not only fallen but broken into pieces. After this the Philistines sent the Ark to their different provinces, and wherever it went the people were afflicted with diseases ; at length they found that it was in vain for them to strive against God, so they sent the Ark back to the land of

* See Scripture History, Number XVI.

Israel. Thus did God maintain his honour, and display his power among the Philistines !

It was this nation that sent the giant Goliath (whom David killed) to defy Israel. David, when king, fought many battles against the Philistines, and greatly weakened their power; and they had frequent contests with other kings of Israel and Judah; at length they were subdued by the Assyrians, and were in turn tributary to all the four great monarchies, and their name and nation is now rooted out.

*Number VII.**SYRIANS.**RUINS of BALBEC.*

IT has already been related, that the ancient Syrians are supposed to have descended from Aram, who was Noah's grandson; and that it included four *principal kingdoms.

In this country there were in former

* See N^o. IV. of *Roman Monarchy*. — *Ancient History*, Part First.

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days two very famous cities, one called
Balbec, the other Palmyra, the ruins of
which still remain, and are greatly ad-
mired by travellers.

EGYPTIANS.

THE origin of the Egyptians has been
already related.*

* See Number V. of *Roman Monarchy*.—Ancient
History, Part First.

Number IX.

PHŒNICIANS.

ELIJAH meeting the Widow of ZERAPHATH.

THE Phœnicians are supposed to have originally descended from Sidon, the son of Canaan, the son of Noah. In time they grew wicked, and worshipped idols instead of God. They were famous for many curious manufactures, such as making glass, weaving fine linen, hewing of timber and stone; and they were em-

32 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
ployed by king Solomon in building the
Temple at Jerusalem; they were also
great merchants, and traded to many
parts of the world.

In the country of Phœnicia were the
two famous cities of Tyre and Sidon,
and also Zeraphath, to which the pro-
phet Elijah was commanded by God to
go, when persecuted by Ahab and Jeze-
bel; and God told him, that he should, in
that place, be sustained by a widow wo-
man. Elijah obeyed, without hesitation;
and arriving at the gate of the city, saw
a poor woman gathering sticks: being
very faint with travelling, Elijah

begged

the woman to fetch him a little water, which she immediately prepared to do; observing her compassionate temper, the prophet entreated that she would bring him also a morsel of bread. The poor widow was very sorry to deny a stranger, but said, that she had nothing in the world, excepting a handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse, of which she was going to make a cake for herself and son, and when that was gone they must lie down and die; for there was a famine in the land, and she had not a friend in the world to relieve her. Fear not, said Elijah, make a cake for

me ; and GOD will multiply your meal, so that it shall not fail you till the famine is over. The poor woman immediately obeyed, for she believed in the power and goodness of the GOD of Israel, though she was born in a heathen land ; and the LORD rewarded her faith and charity, as the prophet had promised ; and she invited Elijah to partake of the plenty which GOD had given her, so he went home and lived at her house for some time.

S I D O N.

IN the days of Darius Ochus, king of Persia, the Sidonians were kept in cruel subjection by him; and were at last betrayed into his hands by Tennes, their own king. When they found they had no way to escape, they shut themselves up, with their wives and children, in their houses, and setting fire to them, were burnt to death, to the number of forty thousand; and all their most valuable things were destroyed with them;

96 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
which so enraged Darius Ochus that he
caused Tennes to be put to death, and
afterwards found a great deal of gold
and silver in the ashes. Some of the
Sidonians, who were out at sea, returned
and rebuilt the city; but bearing a mortal
hatred to the Persians, submitted very
readily afterwards to Alexander the
great.

TYRE.

AMONG the kings of Tyre was
Hiram, who lived in friendship with king
David, and afterwards assisted Solomon

with workmen and materials for building the Temple at Jerusalem. The city of Tyre was in a flourishing state under this king, and after him reigned several other monarchs. At length Tyre was besieged by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, who, after a siege of thirteen years, totally destroyed it; but found nothing in it to reward his pains; for the Tyrians had conveyed their treasure to an island about half a mile distant from the shore, where they built a new city, which afterwards submitted to Nebuchadnezzar.

When Alexander the great was en-

deavoursing to conquer the world, he came to Tyre, but was refused admittance; this so enraged him, that he besieged the city, which held out against him a long while; but was at last taken, and burnt to the ground, and all the inhabitants, excepting such as the Sidonians had conveyed away in their ships, were either cruelly put to death, or sold as slaves.

These chastisements, as the Scriptures inform us, were suffered to fall upon Tyre and Sidon, because they forsook God, and grew proud and vain of the glory of their kingdoms.

Number X.

P H R Y G I A N S.

ALEXANDER the GREAT cutting the GORDIAN KNOT.

THE Phrygians styled themselves the most ancient people in the world; but they are supposed to have been descended from Togarmah, one of the sons of Gomer, who was the son of Japhet, the son of Noah. They were notorious for having a number of idols. Among the kings of Phrygia was Gordius, who was

raised from the plough to the throne. He happened to go one day in his cart to the temple of Jupiter, one of their idols, when the chief people of the city chose him for their king; Gordius gladly accepted the office, and his cart was adored by the foolish people as a goddess. To the beam of the cart he fastened a knot, tied in such a manner, that no one could undo it. And it was said, that whoever could untie it should be the monarch of the world. When Alexander the great was pursuing his victories he came to Phrygia, and made many vain attempts to disentangle this

famous knot. At length his patience (of which he had but a small share) was worn out; and he drew his sword and cut it.

Many other kings reigned over Phrygia after Gordius; but at last it became a province to the kingdom of Lydia, under Cræsus, and continued in that state, till Lydia was reduced by Cyrus.

PHRYGIA MINOR.

THIS country was anciently styled Troas: in it was the famous city of Troy. The inhabitants of Phrygia Minor were

called Trojans ; it is very uncertain from whom they were originally descended ; but some think from Ashkenaz, Gomer's eldest son. The city of Troy was founded by Tros, one of the kings who reigned in Phrygia ; after him several other monarchs succeeded to the throne ; and at last king Priam came to it. He was a very powerful prince, and had a numerous army ; he is said to have had in all fifty children, one of whom, named Paris, being sent on an embassy to Menalaus, king of Sparta, persuaded his queen to go away with him, which so enraged Menalaus that

he persuaded all the other Grecian kings to join with him ; and they besieged Troy, which held out against them ten years ; and a number of Princes and other valiant leaders were killed on both sides ; but at last the city was laid in ashes, and such of the inhabitants as could not save themselves by flight, were put to the sword, or carried into captivity. The Greeks divided the booty, and put to sea in order to return to their respective homes ; but met with a variety of adventures, and were driven on far distant coasts.

Such of the Trojans as escaped, seeing

A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
their country utterly ruined, made the
best of their ill-fortune, and settled in
different places. It is supposed that the
neighbouring Phrygians and Lydians
took possession of the country after the
city of Troy was destroyed.

Number XI.

M E D E S.

The MEDIAN and LYDIAN Armies terrified
at the ECLIPSE of the SUN.

THE country of Media took its name
from Madai, the third son of Japhet

The Medes are supposed to have been subdued by Pul, king of Assyria, or else by Tiglath Pilefar. In the reign of Sennacherib they revolted, after which they lived for some time without a king, but at length were brought into subjection by one of their own countrymen, named Dejoces, who was killed in a battle with the Assyrians.

After Dejoces reigned his son Phraortes, and next to him Cyaxares, in whose reign the Scythians invaded Media, over-ran the whole country, and continued to oppress that and other neighbouring countries for the space of twenty-

eight years ; but at last Cyaxares got the better of them. After this he was engaged in a war with the Lydians ; but a total eclipse of the sun frightened both parties, so that they were glad to make peace ; for these people did not know that an eclipse of the sun was nothing more than the moon passing before the sun, and hiding its light for a little while. Cyaxares formed an alliance with Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, by giving his daughter to him in marriage, and by the aid of the Babylonians took the famous city of Nineveh, and levelled it with the ground. After this the

two conquerors subdued several other nations, invaded and laid waste Samaria, and at last besieged Jerusalem,* which completed the Assyrian Empire.

Cyaxares reigned forty years, and then died: he was succeeded by his son Astyages, called in Scripture *Darius the Mede*, who, together with Cyrus, prince of Persia, conquered Belshazzer, put an end to the Assyrian, and established the Persian Empire, of which Media became a part.†

* See Number VII. of *Assyrian Monarch*.—Ancient History, Part First.

† The same, Number VIII.

Number XII.

P E R S I A N S.

ABRAHAM rescuing Lot and his Family, who had been taken Prisoners.

PERSIA was originally called the land of Elam; after Elam, the son of Shem, from whom the Persians descended. It was rather a powerful kingdom in the days of Abraham, for at that time Chedorlaomer is said to have been king of Elam, and he seems, by the scripture account, to have had five other monarchs in subjection to him, who

revolted, and entered into a confederacy against him with other neighbouring princes. Chedorlaomer overcame them, and killed the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah; and also took captive Lot and his family,* who dwelt near Sodom. Abraham went with four hundred servants and rescued them.

The names of the kings who reigned after Chedorlaomer till Cyrus are not known.

It has already been related, that Cyrus, in conjunction with Darius the Mede, laid the foundation of the Persian mo-

* See Scripture History, Numb. VI.

50 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
narchy, and put an end to the captivity
of the Jews; and a general account of
that monarchy has been given.*

There is besides, what is properly
called the history of Persia as a *nation*,
which is very entertaining, but cannot
be brought into such a little a book as
this: It will be sufficient at present to
say, that the Parthians, who inhabited a
province in Persia, revolted, and became
a powerful kingdom; and that at an-
other period of time the Persians subdu-
ed them, and continued a monarchy for

* See Numb. I. to Numb. VIII. of *Persian Monarchy*
Ancient History, Part First.

a number of years, till they themselves were at length conquered by the Arabs.

C E L T E S.

BARDS playing on HARPS.

THE Celtes descended originally from Gomer, the eldest son of Japhet; they spread themselves by degrees from Phrygia, their first settlement, through many parts of Europe; and formed at last a considerable monarchy, consisting of several kingdoms. They were very superstitious people, and though they

62 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
worshipped God, paid divine honours
to idols also. Instead of churches they
had Groves; and the care of religion was
committed to Druids and Bards, who
were a set of philosophers, that instructed
the people, and sung hymns to their
Gods, playing at the same time on
harps, and other musical instruments.

The Celtes were a very brave and war-
like people, and lived temperately in
respect to food. The ancient history of
the Celtes is very obscure, and therefore
we will not enter further into it at
present.

Number XIII.

SCYTHIANS.

The SCYTHIANS training CHILDREN to shoot
at a Mark.

THE Scythians, as well as the Celtes, descended from Gomer; and their history is equally obscure. They were remarkable for their honesty and justice; and their chief wealth consisted in flocks and herds; they lived mostly upon milk, and cloathed themselves in skins. Instead of houses they had large covered

54 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
waggon, big enough to hold their wives
and children, and all their furniture.
These waggon were drawn either by
horses or oxen. Gold, diamonds, pearls,
and other jewels the Scythians utterly
despised, and they were remarkably
friendly; upon the whole, they would
have been a very wise and good people,
had they not worshipped idols.

The Scythians trained their children
to arms, and while very young, taught
them to ride on horseback, and shoot at
a mark. They had wars with different
nations, particularly with Philip of Ma-

ANCIENT HISTORY.

cedon, Alexander the Great, and the Romans.

Number XIV.

LYDIANS.

The LYDIANS playing at different GAMES.

THE Lydians were a very ancient nation; but their descent is uncertain. They were the first who introduced the coining of gold and silver, who sold by retail, who kept eating-houses and taverns, and invented public sports and shows.

It happened once that there was a great scarcity of provisions in Lydia for several years, when the people, instead of going in ships to fetch some from foreign countries, contrived all kinds of diversions to amuse their minds; and made it a rule to play one day and eat the next. This method would not remove the evil, but increased it; so the king divided the people into two parts, and made them draw lots, to determine which should remain at home, and which should go to seek a new place of abode, since their native country could not afford to maintain them all. The king

appointed his own son Tyrrhenes to command those whose fate it was to remove; and he himself remained to reign over those whose fortune it was to stay. Tyrrhenes and his party, after many adventures, settled in that part of Italy now called Tuscany, and were called Tyrrhenians.

There was a succession of many kings of Lydia, the last of whom was Croesus, who was conquered by Cyrus; and the kingdom became a part of the Persian empire.

*Number XV.***MYSIANS.**

The **MYSIANS** crying at a **FUNERAL**; the
GREEKS ridiculing them.

THE Mysians are said to have been descended from the Lydians. They were once a very brave people; but in time lost their valour, and were looked upon as the most contemptible nation upon earth. They were so ready to shed tears

that they used to be hired by the Greeks to cry at funerals.

Children who give way to tears are liable to become such despicable men as these Mysians were; they should, therefore, endeavour to restrain them on trifling occasions, lest they lose their fortitude and courage, and expose themselves to the ridicule and contempt of the brave and sensible part of the world.

In Mysia was the city of Pergamus, which afterwards became the metropolis of a separate kingdom * under

* See Numb. II. of *Roman Monarchy*. — *Ancient History*, Part First.

Phileterus, who had in his youth been a menial servant to Antigonus, one of Alexander's generals.

LYCIANS.

THE Lycians are supposed to have been descended from the Cretans; they were subdued by Cræsus; and, after the downfall of the Lydian kingdom, by Cyrus. They were a very brave people, and struggled for liberty; for instead of tamely submitting to be governed by the Persians, they, in the time of Xerxes,

opposed one of his great armies with a very small one ; and being overpowered by numbers, they resolved to die together in the field of battle, and were all killed to a man. Lycia was declared a free country by the Romans, and continued so for many years, till Claudius, one of the Roman emperors, reduced it to a Roman province.

C I L I C I A N S.

THIS country is said to have been at first peopled by Tarshish, the son of Javan, and his descendants, who were

A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
driven out by a colony of Phœnicians,
under the conduct of a leader named
Cilia, from whom it was called Cilicia.
They were a valiant people ; it was
made a Roman province by Pompey,
the Roman general.

CAPPADOCIA.

THIS country is supposed to have
been peopled by Togarmah, the last son
of Gomer, and his descendants. The
first king of Cappadocia of whom we
read in history, was Pharnaces, who was
married to Atossa, the daughter of Cyrus,

king of Persia. After many revolutions Cappadocia became a Roman province.

Number XVI.

T H R A C E.

The THRACIANS lamenting over a new born Infant.

IT is supposed that Thyras, the son of Japhet, first peopled this country: the ancient Thracians were deemed a brave and warlike people, but very ill-natured; they were idolators, and did not know that there was one Almighty and good God, who takes care of all his crea-

tures ; and, therefore, as soon as a child was born, instead of rejoicing as christians do, they lamented and wept over it, on account of the miseries that it would endure in this world, being ignorant that God can support people under all the afflictions that befall them. The Thracians thought this life a misfortune ; but christians esteem it an invaluable blessing ; because if it is not their own fault, it will prove to be a passage to another life of endless happiness. —Thrace, in process of time, became a Roman province.

E P I R U S.

THE first inhabitants of this country are supposed to have been Javan, the son of Japhet, and his descendants. There was a succession of many kings in Epirus, one of them named Pyrrhus, was very famous ; but his history is too long to insert in this little book. After the death of Dadamia, a queen, who was murdered, because her subjects disdained to be governed by a woman, it became a republic (that is to say, had no monarch, but was governed by magistrates, who

A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
were chosen every year) and at last it
became a Roman province.

B I T H I N I A.

BITHINIA was once a famous country, and had many fine cities in it. It was anciently divided into many parts, and inhabited by various nations, who were each governed by a king of their own ; but at last they were all brought into subjection to the most powerful kings of the Bithinians ; one of these kings, named Prusias, was conquered by Cræsus, king of Lydia ; and the

Bithinians were afterwards subject to the Persians, till the reign of Alexander the Great; but they struggled for liberty, and became powerful in succeeding ages. The last king of Bithinia, named Nicodemus the fourth, dying without issue, left his kingdom, by his last will, to the Romans, who reduced it to the form of a Province.

C O L C H I S.

THE Colchians are suppose to have been of Egyptian descent, and were a very powerful people. Their country

was subdued by Mithridates the Great,* but revolted from him when he was engaged in a war with the Romans; other revolutions happened in Colchis; but at last this people submitted, of their own accord, to the Romans.

I B E R I A.

THIS country is said to have been first peopled by Tubal, the brother of Gomer and Magog; they were a very brave and warlike nation, and withstood the attacks of the Medes, Persians, and Ma-

* See Numb. III. of *Roman Monarchy*. — Ancient History, Part First.

cedonians, who strove to subdue them. They afterwards held a powerful contest with the Romans, who obtained a great victory over them; but at length granted them a very honourable peace.

Number XVII.

ALBANIA.

The KING of ALBANIA presenting a Dog to
ALEXANDER the Great.

THE Albanians are supposed to have been descended from the Thessalians. The first king of this country that is

75 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
mentioned in history, is said to have pre-
sented a dog to Alexander the Great.

Another king, named Oræses, was
defeated in battle by Pompey, the Ro-
man general, who afterwards granted
him peace. The Albanians continued
to be governed by their own princes for
a long series of years; but were at length
subdued by the Romans.

Number XVIII.

B O S P H O R U S.

CÆSAR returning in Triumph from the Conquest of BOSPHORUS.

BOSPHORUS was a very ancient kingdom, but no certain account can be given of its first inhabitants; many kings reigned over it in succession; in the time of Pharnaces, one of their monarchs, the country was so suddenly attacked by the Romans, under

the command of Cæsar, that the Bosphorians had no time to prepare for a defence; and the Romans gained so speedy a victory, that in giving an account of his success, in a letter to a friend, Cæsar expressed himself as follows, *I came, I saw, I conquered!* which words he caused to be written in capital letters, and carried before him at his triumph.

Number XIX.

P A R T H I A.

The PARTHIAN ARMY retiring at full Speed.

PARTHIA was formerly a province of Persia; the first inhabitants are supposed to have been Scythians, who having been driven out of their own country settled here. They were very famous bowmen, and had an art peculiar to themselves of discharging their arrows with incredible dexterity, while

they were retiring from the enemy. They were strict observers of their words, and would not deceive either friends or foes. The Parthians were first subject to the Medes, afterwards to the Persians, and lastly to Alexander the Great; upon whose death Parthia fell to the share of Seleucus Nicator, whose successors held it for many years, till Arsaces threw off the subjection to the Macedonians, and founded a new kingdom; which, in process of time, became by far the most powerful in the east; and was held by his successors for four hundred and seventy

years. At length the Persians revolted from them, and a furious battle was fought, in which the Parthian king was killed, and his army cut off; and this brave people were obliged to submit to be governed by a nation that had long been subject to them.

Number XX.

CARTHAGENIANS.

DIDO giving Directions for the building of
CARTHAGE.

THE Carthagenians are supposed to have been originally Canaanites, who

fled from Joshua ; but the famous kingdom of Carthage is said to have been founded by Elisa, or Dido, sister to Pygmalion, a king of Tyre. This princess was married to Sichæus, the uncle of Pygmalion, who knowing that his nephew was of a very covetous disposition, buried his riches, which were very great, under-ground. Pygmalion, not suspecting this circumstance, killed his uncle in hope of possessing his treasures ; but Dido suspecting his design resolved to make her escape, and convey those riches with her. She pretended that she was going to settle in a separate

town in her brother's dominions; and desired Pygmalion to furnish her with vessels to convey herself, her effects, and attendants to this place; to this the king consented, thinking to obtain what he wished for; but Dido disappointed his hopes, for being thus supplied with men and ships, she sailed away, with all the treasure, to the coast of Africa, where she landed, and built the city of Carthage; and from this small beginning arose a very powerful kingdom, which had great contests with other nations, particularly the Romans, by whom it was at length subdued.

Number XXI.

NUMIDIANS.

The last Interview between MASINISSA and
SOPHONISBA.

THE original inhabitants of Numidia are supposed to have been descended from Phut, the brother of Misraim; but some of the Phœnicians afterwards settled in this country.

The Numidians assisted the Carthaginians in their wars with the Romans; but having been ill treated by the

former, in respect to the payment of their troops, entered into a war with them, which lasted for three years; the Carthagenians at length got the better, and treated the Numidians with great cruelty, for which they afterwards bore them an implacable hatred.

Among the most renowned Kings of Numidia, was Masinissa, a brave and amiable monarch. He met with a variety of troubles, and at last formed an alliance with the Romans, and assisted them against the Carthagenians.

Asdrubal, the Carthagenian general, had a daughter named Sophonisba, a

most accomplished lady, whom he had promised to Masinissa for a wife, in order to engage him in his interest; but afterwards gave her to Syphax, who was king in another part of Numidia, and Masinissa's enemy. Asdrubal and Syphax were defeated, and Syphax taken prisoner by Masinissa, who entered his capital in triumph, and hastened to the palace with a determination to punish Sophonisba for marrying Syphax; but she overcame his resentment by her engaging behaviour; and he married her, in hopes, by this mean, to prevent her being delivered up to the Romans.

As soon as Scipio, the Roman general, heard of this marriage, he was apprehensive that Sophonisba would draw Masinissa to the interest of Carthage, as she had done Syphax; he therefore required the latter to deliver her up to the Romans. Masinissa was greatly afflicted on this occasion; but being convinced that he had acted wrong in marrying Sophonisba, he obeyed Scipio, and carried the unwelcome news to his queen, and soon after sent her a cup of poison, which she readily drank, rather than grace the triumph of the Roman general. It was the practice among

heathens for people to put an end to their own lives, when they met with great disappointments; but christians know, that it is much nobler to bear adversity with patience, and trust to God to deliver them, or give them the reward he has promised to the patient in a future state.

In process of time Numidia became a part of the Roman Empire.

Number XXII.

CYRENAICA.

The LION flying from BATTUS.

BATTUS, the Therean, with some of his countrymen, are said to have built Cyrene. This prince had an impediment in his speech, of which he was cured in a very remarkable manner. As he was one day wandering alone in a desert place, he was surprised by a lion, which unexpectedly rushing upon him,

struck him with such terror, that he cried out in a very extraordinary manner, and frightened the lion so, that it ran away; from this time Battus could talk without hesitation.

There were several changes in the government of Cyrene; sometimes they had a king, sometimes not; at length it became a Roman province, afterwards it fell to the Arabs, and then to the Turks, who still possess it.

Number XXIV.

THE AFRICAN ETHIOPIANS.

The ETHIOPIAN King giving the Bow to the
Ambassadors of CAMBYSES.

ETHIOPIA is the country which in scripture is called Cush. It is supposed that the descendants of Cush first peopled it, but that other nations in time mixed with them. In the reign of Solomon, or soon after his death, the Ethiopians were in subjection to Sefac, king of Egypt, and afterwards to Essarhaddon,

king of Assyria. They were also in subjection to Cyrus, but made themselves independent after his decease. Cambyfes, desirous to reduce them again, sent ambassadors with rich presents, under a pretence of shewing them respect ; but the Ethiopian king guessed at his design, and told his Ambassadors so, at the same time giving them a bow, “ Present this,” said he, “ to your
“ monarch ; and when his subjects can
“ bend it as easily as mine can do, let
“ them think of conquering us ; and in
“ the mean time, let them rejoice that
“ the Ethiopians never wished to extend

“ their dominions beyond their own
“ country. Cambyfes, enraged at this
message, raised an army against them;
but not having provided fufficient to
feed them, was soon obliged to return.

In the time of Augustus Cæſar, a famous queen, named Candace, reigned in Ethiopia, who committed hoſtilities againſt the Romans; but the Ethiopians were ſubdued by that powerful people.

Number XXV.

A R A B S.

ISHMAEL holding a Contest with the native
Inhabitants of ARABIA.

IT is thought that some of the descendants of Joktan, the son of Eber, were the first inhabitants of Arabia.

Before Isaac was born Abraham had another son, called Ishmael, who, with his mother Hagar, were obliged to go away from Abraham's house, because

they behaved very disrespectfully to Sarah and Isaac.*

Ishmael had no portion but his bow and arrows; but God enabled him to make his own way in the world, and he fixed himself in Arabia. He was by nature of a bold enterprising disposition, and feared no man. It is very probable that the Arabs, who were descended from Joktan, did not like a stranger should occupy any part of the country they inhabited; but as Ishmael knew that there was room enough for them

* See Scripture History, Page 28.

90 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
and him, he defied their attacks, and
was protected by God, who had prom-
ised Abraham to make of Ishmael a
great nation. Ishmael married an Egyp-
tian woman, and had twelve sons, who
in time, became twelve princes, from
whom descended the present race of
Arabs, who are, in some respects, just
such kind of people as we may suppose
Ishmael and his sons to have been; for
they dwell in tents, and continue to as-
sert their independency. It is remarkable,
that the Arabs were never absolutely
conquered by any nation. They now
claim a right to seize the property of

every traveller that passes their roads ; but they have for a long time had a false religion among them ; we cannot suppose that Ishmael, who had been instructed by Abraham, did so, though his hands were ready to defend him against those, whose hands were lifted up to prevent his becoming a great nation.

G A U L S.

THE Gauls descended from the Celts, or Gomerians ; they became in time a

92 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
very powerful and numerous people,
and made frequent incursions into dif-
ferent countries; and the Romans were
often in great fear of them; but at
length, by taking advantage of their
quarrels among themselves, and con-
quering one little state after another,
Julius Cæsar entirely subdued them,
and reduced Gaul to a Roman Province.
He is said to have taken at different
times in Gaul 800 cities, 300 different
nations, and to have defeated, in various
battles, three millions of men.

Number XXVI.

SPANIARDS.

The ROMANS carrying away the TREASURES
of SPAIN.

THE Spaniards are supposed to have proceeded from the Celts, the descendants of Gomer, the eldest son of Japhet. Several other nations obtained footing in Spain; at length they were conquered by the Carthagenians; and the Carthagenians were driven out by the Romans, who immediately seized on all the valu-

94 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
able mines in Spain, particularly those
of gold and silver, and carried away im-
mense treasure. Spain became a Roman
province; but the Spaniards, by revolts,
gave the Romans a great deal of trouble
to keep them in subjection.

GERMANS.

THE origin of the Germans is very
uncertain; but they are supposed to have
been of Celtic extraction. While the
Romans were pursuing their victories
they found the Germans divided into

number of small kingdoms. The Germans beheld, with resentment, the success of the Romans against other nations; and being fond of liberty, they united together to protect each other; however, the Romans found means to raise jealousy and discord among them; and, by degrees, subdued each state, one after another, till Germany became a Roman province.

Julius Cæsar, having gained advantages over several of the German nations, with whom the Romans had contended, caused a bridge to be built across the Rhine, and is said to have

96 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
finished it in ten days; he placed a
strong guard on each side of it, and
then marched his army over it, to the
great astonishment of the Germans.
From this time Germany became the
scene of much bloodshed.

Number XXXVII.

BRITAIN.

The PICTS.

THE island of Great Britain, contain-
ing England, Scotland, and Wales, was
formerly called Albion. The southern

parts of Britain are supposed to have been first peopled by the Gauls ; the northern by the Germans ; the eastern by the Picts, who are said to have come out of Scythia. All the Britons went without any cloaths, excepting skins of wild beasts, thrown carelessly over them ; and they painted their bodies of a sky blue colour, in the forms of flowers, trees, and animals ; instead of houses they lived in little mean huts ; they tilled no ground, their food being game and fruits. In war their arms were a shield, and a short spear, to the lower end of which was fastened a bell of

98 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
brass, in order to frighten the enemy
with the noise when they shook it.
In war they made use of chariots, driv-
ing furiously among the enemy's ranks,
and discharging their darts among them.

Number XXVIII.

The LANDING of JULIUS CÆSAR.

BRITAIN was but little known to
the Romans, till the time of Julius
Cæsar, who having overcome the most
warlike nations of the Gauls, resolved to
bring the Britons also into subjection.

and for this purpose sailed from Gaul towards this island, with a fleet under his command, and arriving in a few hours on the British coast, came to anchor in a plain and open shore.

The Britons, apprized of his design, sent their horses and chariots before to oppose the landing of the Romans. As the ships which the Romans came in were large, they required a considerable depth of water, so that the soldiers, though loaded with heavy armour, were obliged to leap into the sea, and at the same time to struggle with the waves and encounter with the enemy, who,

having their hands at liberty, could either stand on dry land, or by wading a little way into the water, reach the invaders with their darts. Cæsar observing that his soldiers were discouraged, and unwilling to engage upon such unequal terms, snatched up the standard and leaped into the sea. His troops followed, and a bloody battle ensued, in which the Britons were defeated, and obliged to sue for peace, which was granted ; but in a short time after they attacked the Romans, and were again repulsed ; however peace was once more accorded to them, and Cæsar

returned to Gaul. In a short time he made a second expedition against this island, which the Britons bravely defended; and though he obtained considerable advantages, he could not completely subdue them before he thought it prudent to return to Gaul; and was prevented from pursuing his conquests afterwards, by the necessity of attending to other affairs. However, after a long series of years, Britain was entirely reduced by the Romans.

Number XXIX.THE TURKS, TARTARS, AND
MOGULS.

ALANZA-KHAN dividing his Empire between his two Sons TATAR and MOGUL.

THE Turks and Moguls are generally allowed to have been Scythians, the descendants of Japhet, the eldest son of Noah. It is related by their historians that Japhet had a son named Turk, from whom the nation that pro-

ceeded from him were called Turks ; after him several other kings governed the country. Taunak, the son of Turk, who immediately succeeded him, is said to have found out the use of salt. In the reign of one of these kings, whose name was Alanza-Khan, the people of this country were very rich, and indulged themselves to excess in all kinds of sinful pleasures, and became wicked idolators.

Alanza-Khan had two sons, one named Tatar and the other Mogul, between whom, a little before his decease, he divided his dominions, and

they became two separate kingdoms. That nation over which Tatar ruled were called Tartars : that which Mogul governed were called Moguls. Each of them continued separate kingdoms for many years : at length the Moguls were subdued by the Tartars ; but some hundred years afterwards the Moguls got the better of the Tartars, and kept them in subjection.

Number XXX.

THE INDIANS.

AN INDIAN BRACHMAN in the Act of
Contemplation.

INDIA is a very large country, and formerly contained a great number of kingdoms and provinces, one of which was governed by Porus, who was subdued by Alexander the Great.* India is supposed to have been peopled originally by the descendants of Japhet. It was,

* See Part I. Numb. VII.

and still is, remarkable for a set of philosophers, called Brachmans. The Brachmans are said to have originally descended from Abraham and his wife Keturah ; and if so, they doubtless had the true religion among them at first ; but by degrees they took to worshipping a strange set of idols, the principal of which they call Brachman ; and they will deny themselves food and sleep, and sit in one posture for whole days together, without so much as lifting up their eyes, in hopes of gaining the favour of Brachman, by thinking of *him* only. What opinion would the Brachmans entertain

of many Christian children, if they were to be told, that though they know that there is one ALMIGHTY GOD who made them, and preserves them from day to day, and will take them to heaven after death, if they will serve him truly, yet very often forget to say their prayers, and do not even think about GOD, from morning till night?

Sesostris, king of Egypt, is supposed to have extended his conquests into India, and part of it was conquered by Darius Hytaspis; and Xerxes had a body of Indian troops to attend him, and it is supposed that some of the Indians

308. A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
were dependant on other kings of Persia.
It has been related that, after Alexander
the Great had put an end to the Persian
monarchy, he went to India, and con-
quered Porus ; he also subdued a num-
ber of other princes, and committed a
great many cruelties, but could not
properly be said to conquer India ; for,
as soon as he left the country, the kings
and princes recovered their former
power.

After a great number of years India
was subdued by the Arabs under Mah-
med Gagna.

Number XXXI.

CHINESE.

WHANG-TI tilling the Ground; his Empress viewing her Mulberry Grove.

THE Chinese are supposed to have proceeded originally from the descendants of Japhet. The first great Emperor of China was named Fo-hi; he was a very wise and powerful monarch. After him many other emperors governed China; one of these was named Whang-ti; he was extremely famous for inventing a variety of useful arts. It

110 A DESCRIPTION *of* PRINTS *of*
was usual for the Chinese emperor, on
his accession to the throne, to plow a
few furrows, and afterwards to offer
sacrifices to the Supreme Being, whom
they called Shang-ti, or Tyen. Whang-
ti had great veneration for the Supreme
Being; and in order to prevent being
hindered from offering his sacrifices by
bad weather, built a large temple for
the purpose. The same day that the
emperor went to till the ground with his
principal courtiers, his empress Lwi-
tsu, repaired to her mulberry grove, with
the ladies of her court, to set them the
example of encouraging manufactures.

This good emperor and empress put one in mind of our own King and Queen, who honour God, and set good examples to their subjects.

After Whang-ti, several emperors reigned in succession; at last one, named Yau, ascended the throne; he was very wise and amiable, and greatly beloved by his people; after Yau, Shun was emperor, with whose reign the ancient history of the Chinese concludes.

Number XXXII.

AMERICANS.

MANCO CAPAC and MAMA OCOLLO, presenting themselves to the PERUVIAN SAVAGES.

AMERICA is also called the New World, because for a long time it was not known in other countries that there was such a place, though it contains an immense tract of land. How it first came to be peopled is very uncertain; but it is supposed, that for many years

the inhabitants led a savage life: the account which the Americans give of their being first civilized, is this :

After they had endured, for several ages, the hardships and calamities which attend a savage life, a man and woman of majestic form, and clothed in decent garments, presented themselves to view on the bank of the lake Titiaca, in Peru, one of the provinces of America, and declared themselves to be the children of the Sun, sent by their parent to instruct and reclaim them. The Peruvians supposed the Sun to be God, and therefore numbers of them united to

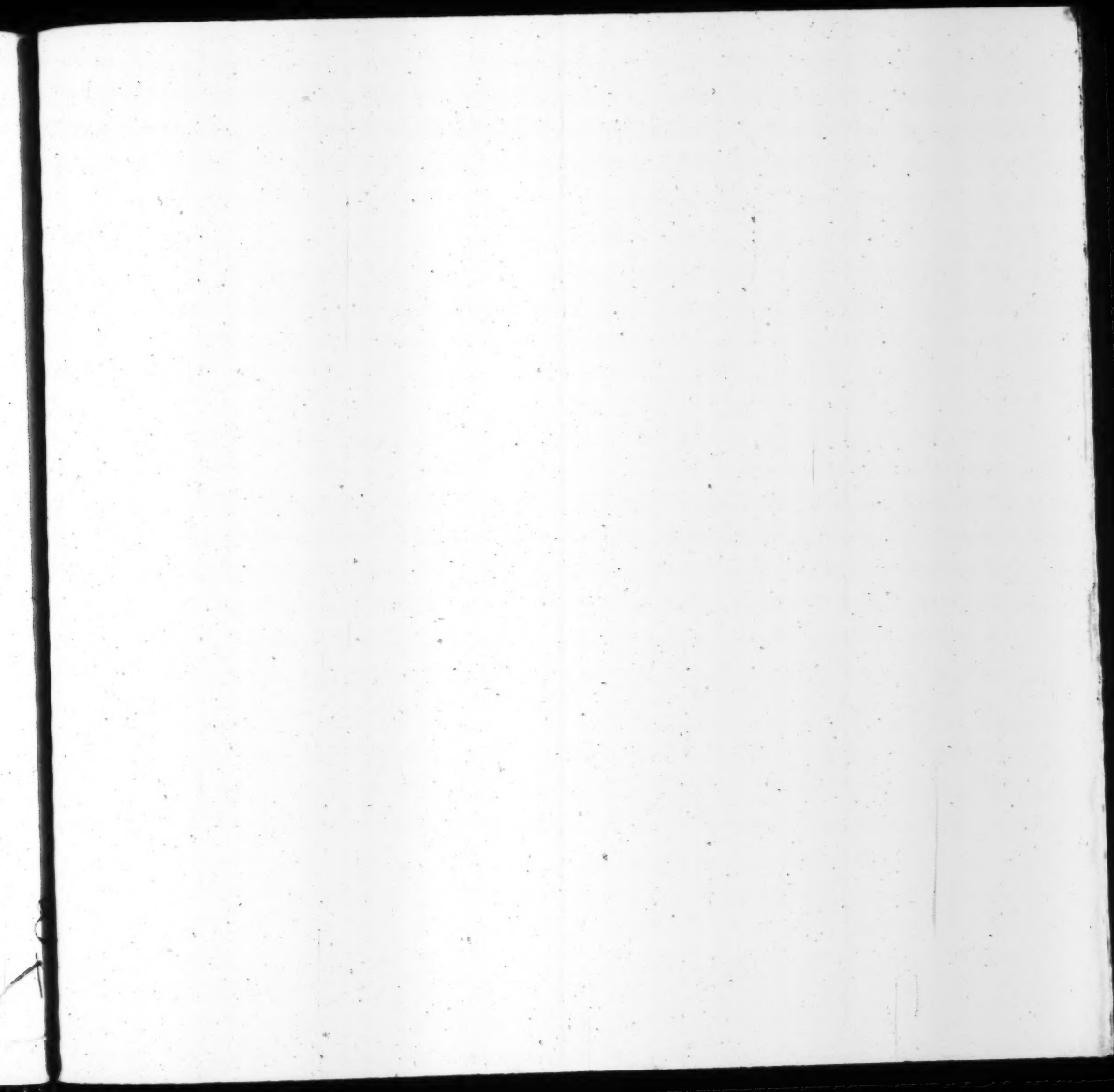
gether, and followed Manco Capac and Mama Ocollo (as this man and woman were called) to Cuzco, where they settled, and began to lay the foundations of a city. Manco Capac instructed the men in agriculture, and other useful arts; Mama Ocollo taught the women to spin and weave. The former having made himself Inca, or Lord of Peru, contrived laws to keep his subjects in order; and after his death a number of other monarchs, under the same title, ruled over Peru, and by degrees brought other provinces of America into subjection, and raised a mighty empire, in

which the provinces lived in magnificence, ease, and splendour, till the cruel Spaniards, coveting the treasures which they possessed, invaded their territories, and exercised the most unchristian barbarities on them, as we read in the modern history of America. Who Manco Capac, and Mama Ocollo were, is impossible to tell; but we may suppose that they were two persons from a civilized country, who went to Peru with the design of obtaining the sovereignty over its inhabitants; and knowing that the Peruvians were among those idolators,

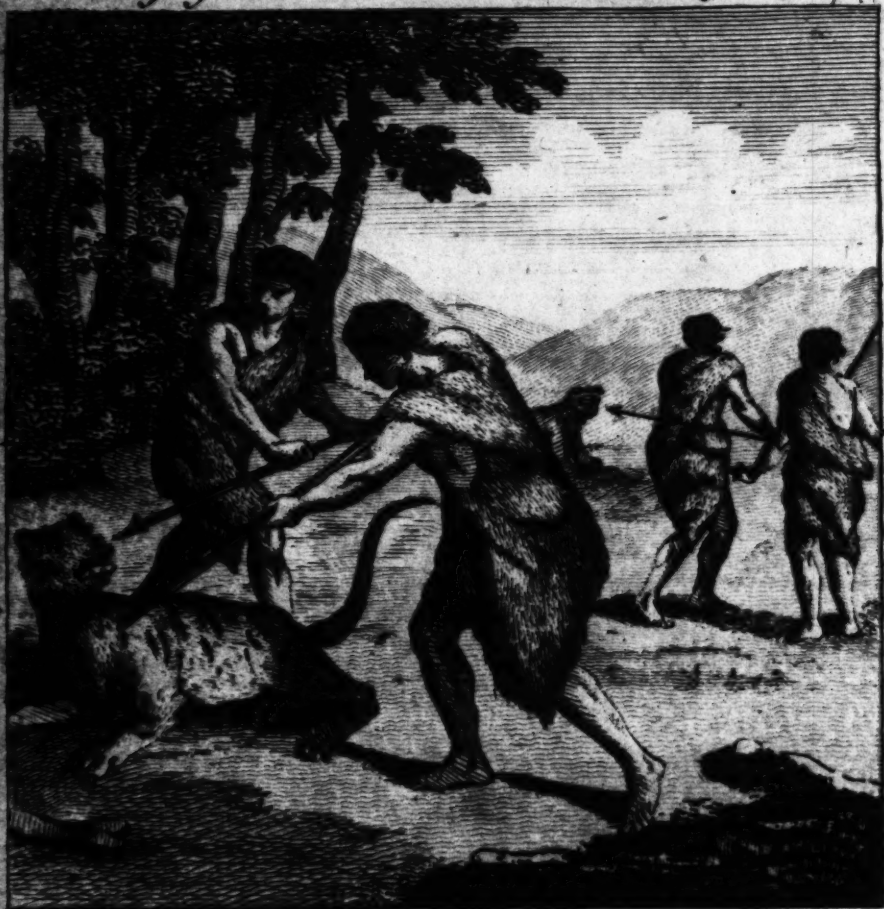
116 A DESCRIPTION of PRINTS of
who paid adoration to the Sun, pre-
tended to come from the Sun, in order
to effect their purpose.

THE END.





Afsyrian I Monarchy



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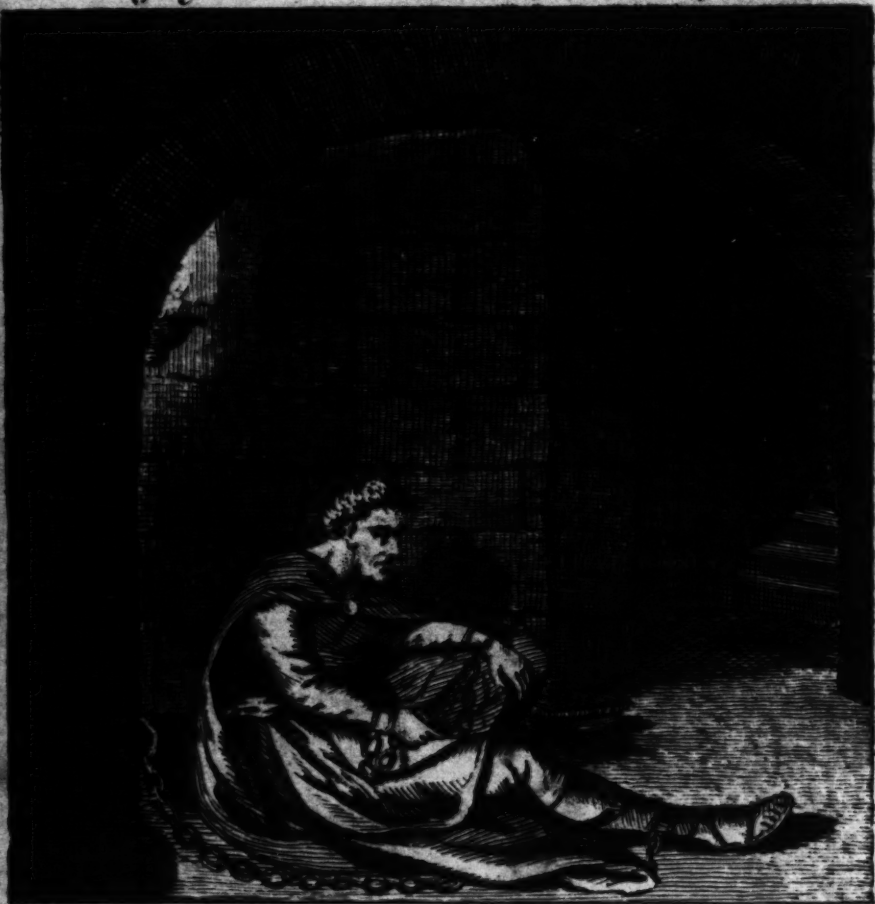


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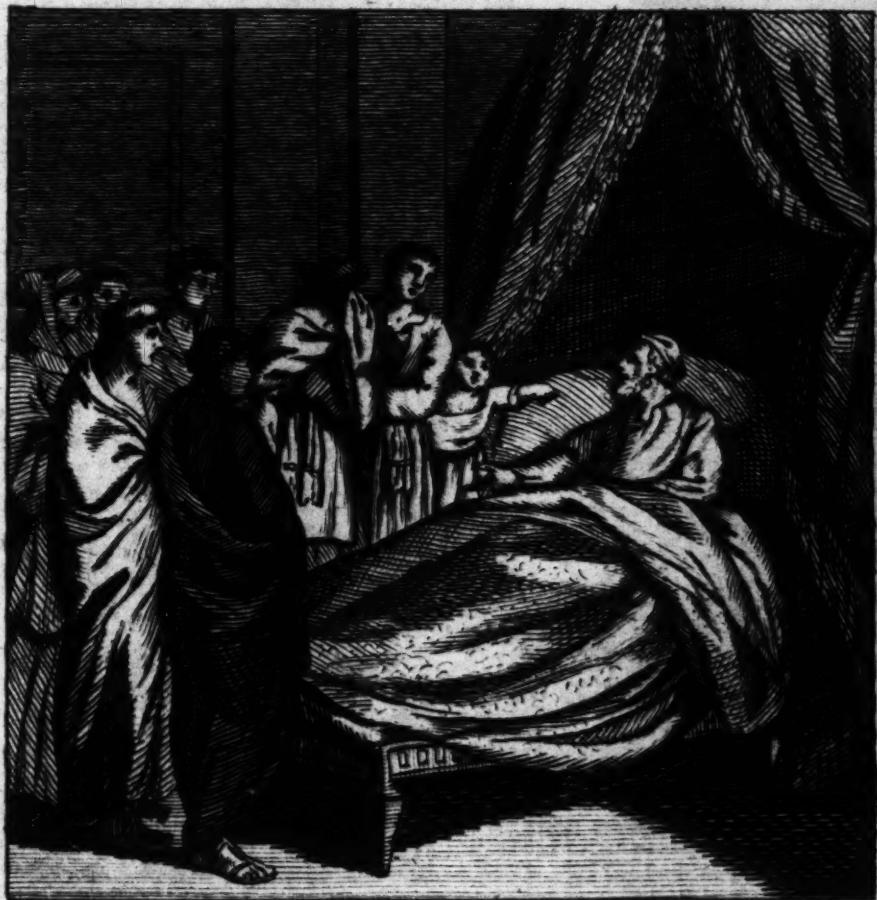


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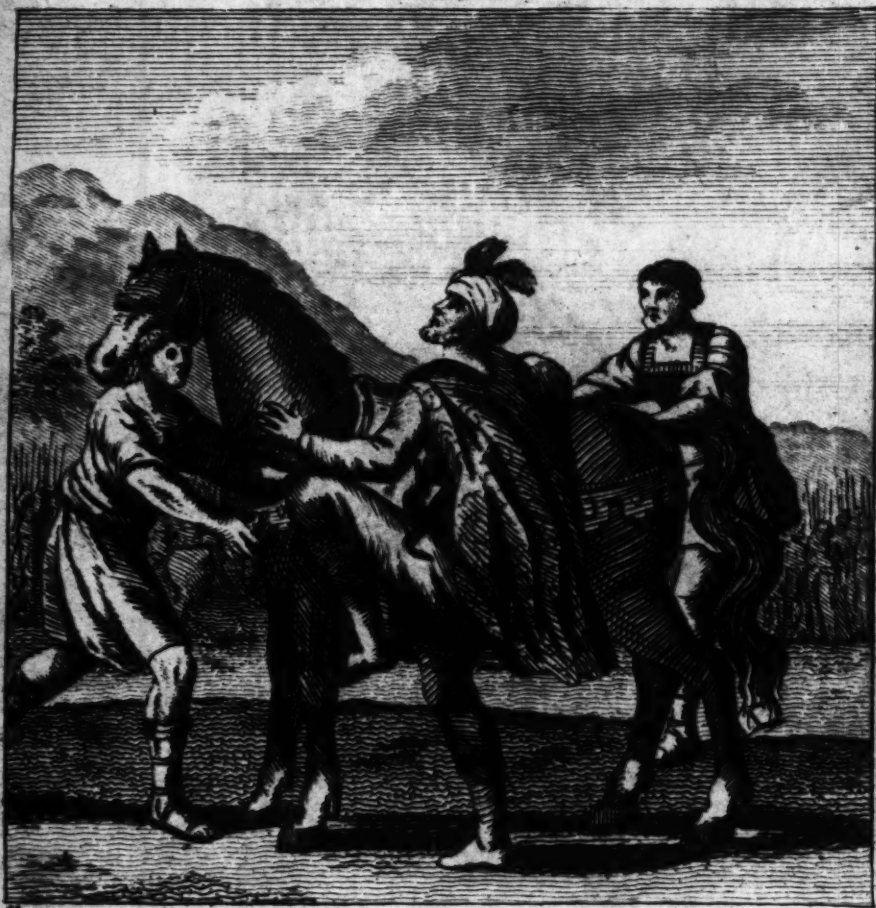


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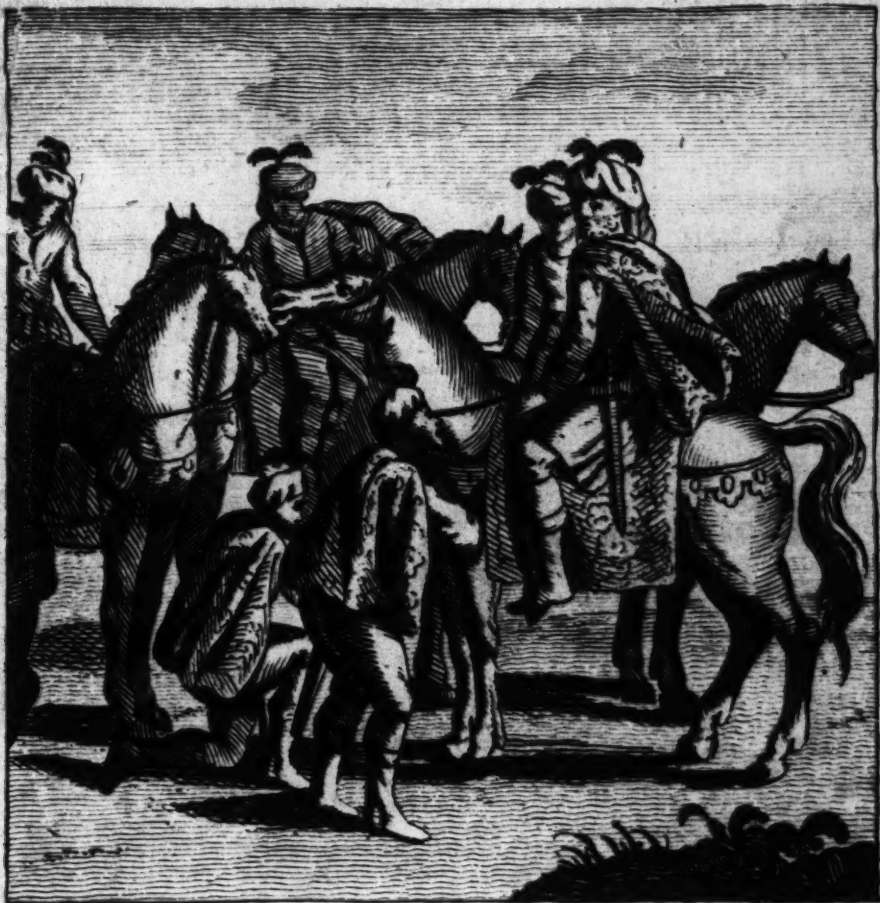
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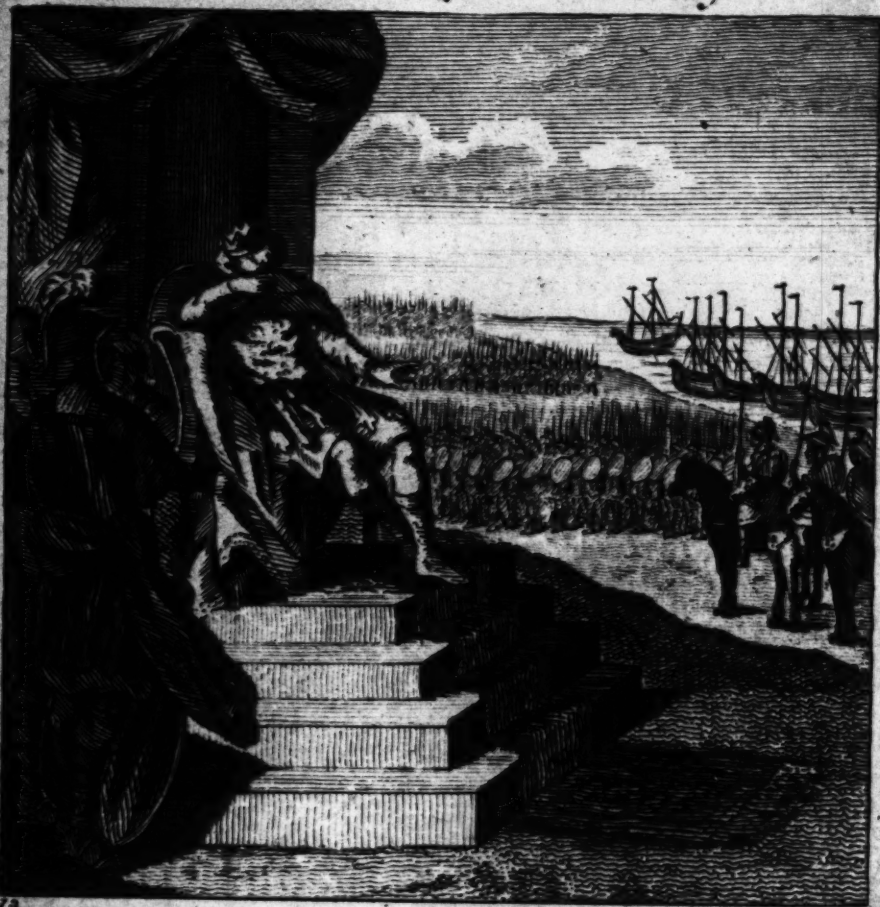
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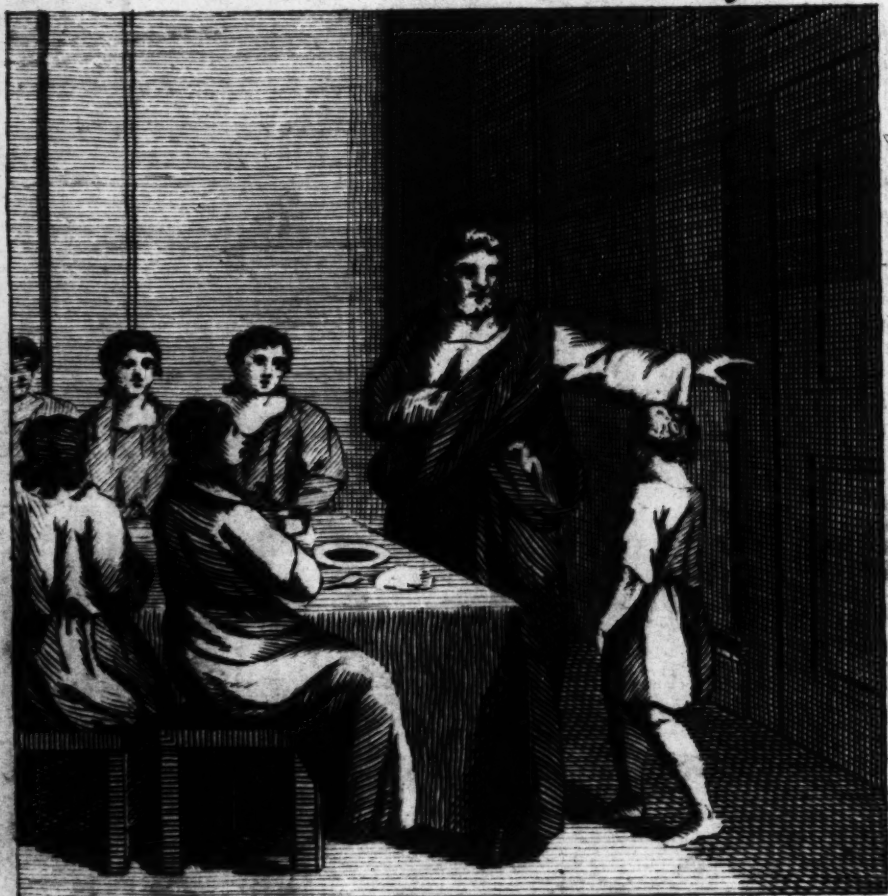
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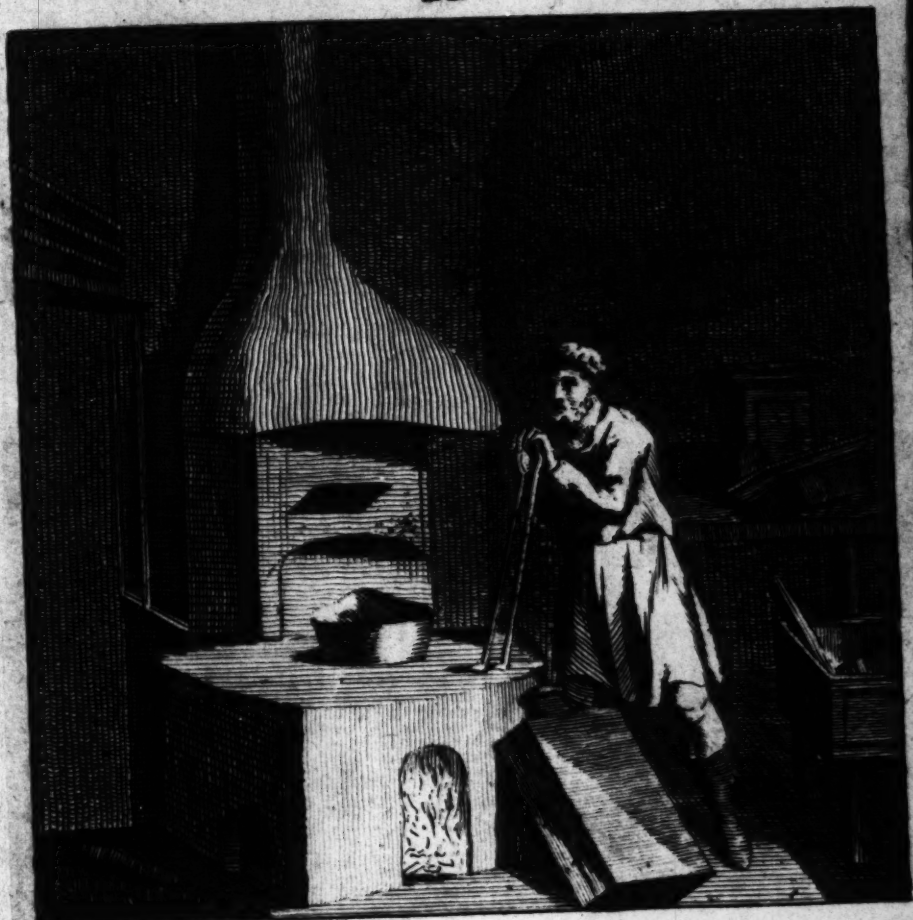


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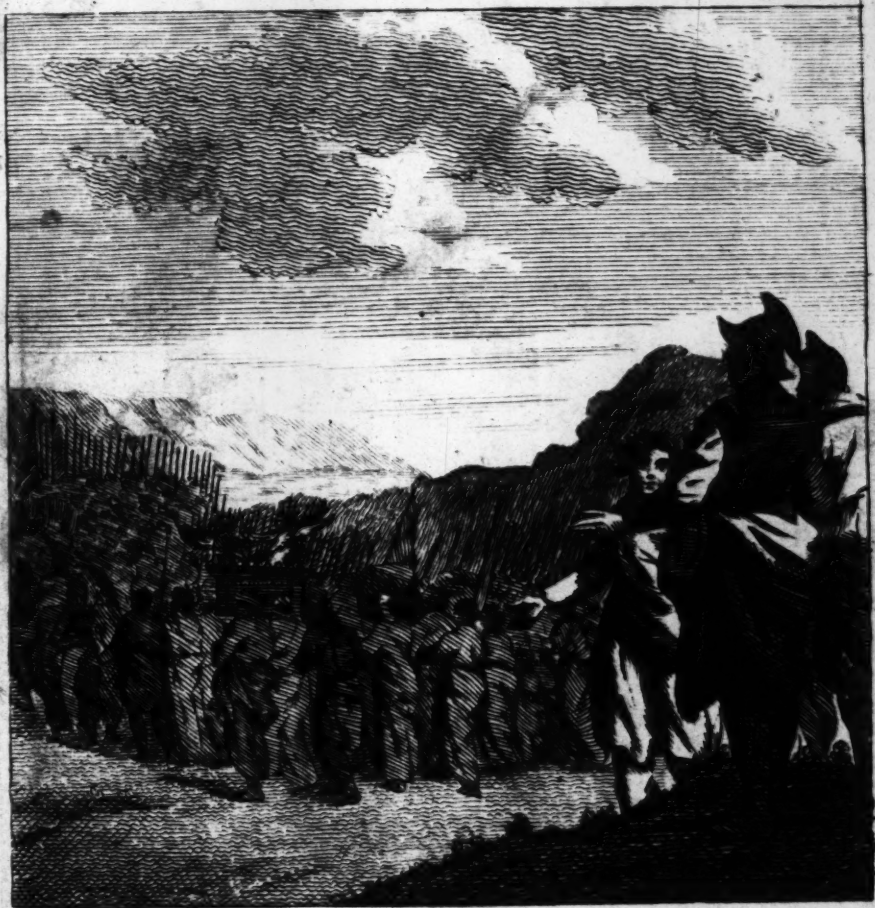
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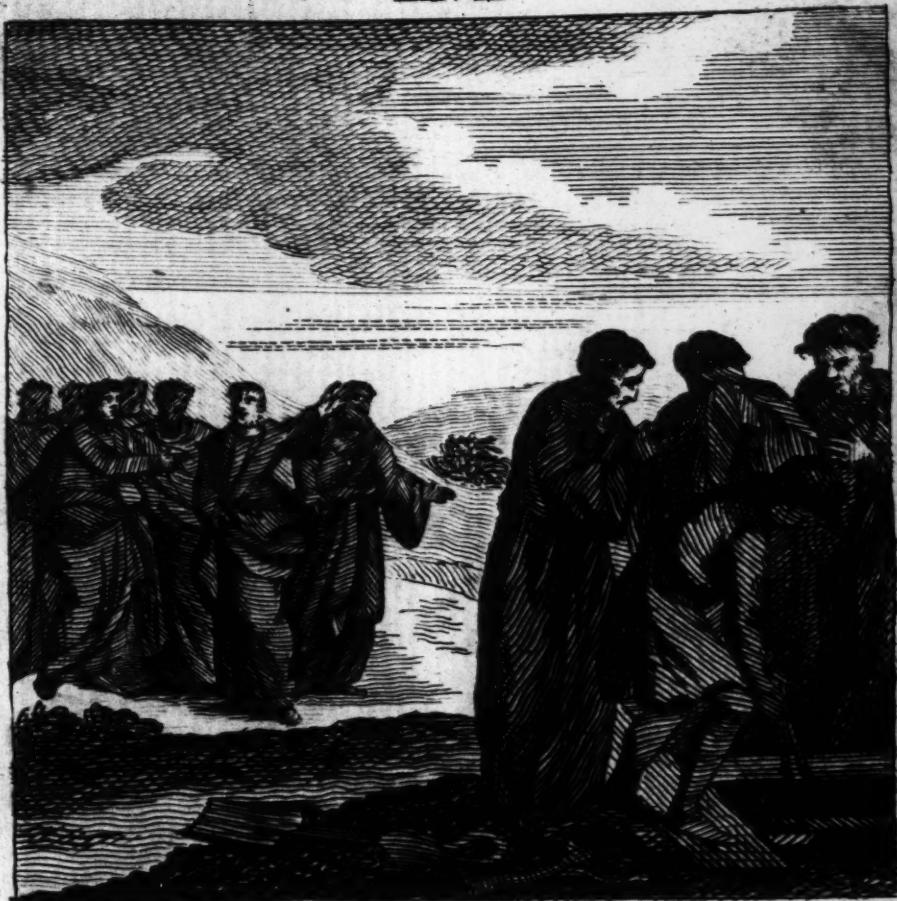








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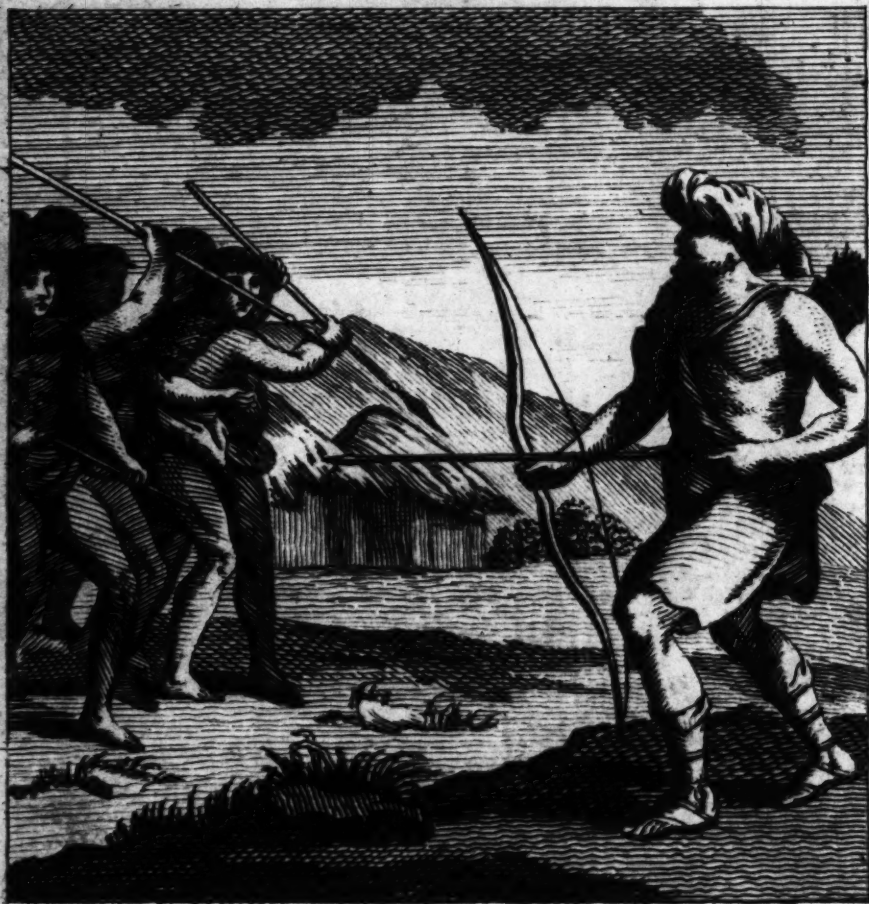












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XXVIII









